



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

only one in this country that has been found upon a cultivated plant. In Europe one species (*E. crastophilum*, Sacc) occurs on the orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*) while *E. Calendulæ* D.By. is sometimes met with upon the marigold (*Calendula officinalis*) and arnica (*Arnica montana*). The leading orders bearing white smuts are: Ranunculaceæ, Papaveraceæ, Compositæ, Boraginaceæ and Gramineæ, and the one upon the spinach, introduces a new host-order and one that at present is surrounded by those not known to contain any species attacked by an *Entyloma*.

BYRON D. HALSTED.

RUTGERS COLLEGE, March 24, 1890.

The New Edition of Gray's Manual.

Prof. Porter's criticism of the new edition of Gray's Manual, which was admitted into the last number of the BULLETIN, is written in a spirit so unworthy of him that self-respect on the part of the editors of the Manual would ordinarily forbid a reply. There are some statements, however, which I desire to make in relation to the work, some of which touch more or less closely upon points that Prof. Porter has referred to. As for most of the questions propounded by him, so far as I understand their bearing, anyone who has taken the trouble to read the preface will need little further answer.

The different editions of the Manual have contained the following numbers of pages: the first 782, the second 791, the third 746, the fourth 890, the fifth 742, and the sixth 818. The Mosses and Liverworts were included in all the previous editions excepting the third and fifth, the third and fourth including also the "Garden Botany." The Mosses, etc., were dropped from the fifth edition in the expectation that a supplementary volume would be prepared to cover them and perhaps other cryptogams. This hope has been fulfilled only in part by the publication of the Manual of Mosses by Lesquereux and James.

In the present edition, notwithstanding the extension of the territory, and with the inclusion again of the Hepaticæ, with other material which it seemed advisable to add, an effort has been made to avoid an increase in the bulk of the volume. Economy of space has been studied at every point where it was

justifiable. Electrotpe plates for the illustrations have been substituted for the original stones and copper plates, which has permitted their printing upon thinner paper and the placing of the explanations opposite the plates to which they refer. A thin but firm paper has been used for the whole volume, and the result as respects bulk is that, the book is both thinner and lighter than even the last edition.

In the elaboration of the matter that has been admitted it was, of course, impossible to please everyone. What appears a fault to one will be an excellence in the judgment of another. In the portions that had not recently been revised by Dr. Gray himself the work is necessarily unequal, inasmuch as some orders have been subject to more or less thorough and trustworthy revisions by various botanists, while others have had no especial attention given to them for years. It was necessary to make the best of what was at hand, and this has been done as far as the limited time permitted, every known available source of information up to the very latest date being made use of, and no little original work intercalated where it seemed most needed. All the conclusions and determinations that have been published have not, however, been adopted, for what seemed in each case to be good reasons. A case in point is one referred to by Prof. Porter in regard to *Gentiana alba*, Muhl., a name which he considers that he has "clearly proved untenable." But a careful consideration of the whole question, including a reference to Muhlenberg's manuscripts, convinced me that Dr. Gray's conclusion was probably the more correct one.

The undue multiplication of varieties has not been favored. Everyone must understand that species vary, some more and some less, but all to some extent. The attempt to define and name these variations is in the great majority of cases of little profit, especially in a manual like the present.

The determination of the range of species was often a difficult and unsatisfactory matter. Numerous local catalogues, more or less reliable, the Gazette, THE BULLETIN, the Gray Herbarium, were at hand and were consulted whenever there seemed occasion for it. That there should be not a few errors of various kinds is not strange, and I am not at all surprised that the keen scent of

Prof. Porter has enabled him to draw up a list of sixty, though more than half of the cases mentioned by him are fairly covered by the range as now given in the Manual. Botanists will not be greatly troubled in this regard, I think, if they will give common sense fair play, and consider that when the range is given from New England to Minnesota, for example, the limit is not to be taken as a mathematically straight line connecting the two, and when a plant is said to be common, that it may be more common in some sections than others, or may even be wholly wanting in some areas.

Some additional facts respecting distribution that were overlooked or at the time unknown may here be given. *Caltha natans*, Pall., not previously known as belonging to our flora, has been collected by Mr. E. J. Hill, at Tower, Minnesota. *Dianthus deltoides* occurs on the downs of Martha's Vineyard (Miss Edith Watson); *Sagina procumbens*, at Champion, Michigan (E. J. Hill); *Solidago neglecta*, var. *linoides*, at Turner, Maine (John A. Allen); *Ruellia pedunculata*, Torr., should be added, found at De Soto, Mo., by Dr. H. E. Hasse.

Typographical errors, and the like, are unavoidable. Attention is called to a few of some importance. On page 19, the cross-reference should be to page 5. On pages 62 and 63 the genera referred to in the headings of the key should be n. 2, n. 5, and n. 11, instead of n. 3, n. 4, and n. 10. On page 98 the root of *Callirrhoe triangulata* should be described as fusiform. On page 145, read *Ammannia latifolia*. On page 375, read Independence, Mo. On page 383, the upper lip of the corolla of *Conobea* is 2-lobed. On page 441, for *Lurs* read *Leers*. On page 470, Sweet-fern is omitted as the common name of *Myrica asplenifolia*. *Prunus* is omitted from the Index, and Plate 15 is referred to in the text uniformly as Pl. 16. These errors will be corrected in the next issue.

The editors of the Manual have been neither omniscient nor infallible. But they have tried to do their best, and knowing something of the book, I will for myself frankly say that I look upon it, as it stands, as a piece of "good work," and I confidently believe that it will be appreciated as such more and more by botanists who may use it.

SERENO WATSON.